

26 JUN 2001
PNB-ASD
ASD GARNERS RM68 MLBN

MELAKA, June 26 (Bernama) -- Amanah Saham Didik (ASD), one of the unit trust schemes launched by Permodalan Nasional Bhd (PNB), has collected RM68 million since it was launched on April 20.

PNB chief executive Datuk Hamad Kama Piah Che Othman said that although the amount was still low, PNB was confident that it would increase.

"Give some time to the investors to invest," he told reporters after attending the Melaka state level launch of the ASD by Chief Minister Datuk Wira Mohd Ali Rustam here today.

The RM300 million ASD launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had offered each unit at RM1 and an individual is allowed a maximum investment of 100,000 units.

Apart from ASD, PNB also manages Amanah Saham Nasional, Amanah Saham Bumiputera, Amanah Saham Wawasan 2020, Amanah Harta Tanah PNB, Amanah Saham Nasional 2 and Amanah Saham Malaysia.

Earlier, in his speech Hamad said that ASD was different from other unit trust schemes, as it was also opened to children of between six months to 17 years.

"Others are not opened to investors below 18 years of age," he added.

Hamad also said that under the ASD scheme, withdrawals could be made at any time and that it also provided good dividend returns.

As for the development of other unit trust schemes, he said that to-date, RM36 billion had been collected from the seven unit trust schemes managed by PNB.

Of this amount, RM4 billion was from non-bumiputera who invested in unit trust schemes which are opened to all Malaysians.

He said that PNB had come out with various products to provide alternatives to investors in its effort to encourage Malaysians to invest in the unit trust.

-- BERNAMA

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